Disparity in the Cost Estimates of Power Projects

3839. SHRI GAYA SINGH :

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a wide disparity in the cost estimates of the Ministry of Power and Central Electricity Authority for some power projects; and

(b) if so, what are the projects under construction cost estimated by the Ministry and the CEA and the reasons for wide disparity, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign Investment in Power Sector in Sikkim

3840. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement for investment in power generation has been signed between India and some foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the terms of reference of such agreements ;

(c) whether power generation programmes with foreign investment are also proposed to be undertaken in Sikkim;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) No agreements are signed with foreign countries for investment proposals from foreign private parties in power generation. Prospective investors directly offer proposals to the State Electricity Boards either in response to an invitation for bid or through negotiations.

(b) 75 offers of interest from private sector companies including 35 from foreign investors/NRIs have been received for setting up power plants in India. The terms of agreement are finalised with the promoter by the State Electricity Board concerned under the policy framework prepared by the Government of India.

(c) to (e) Sikkim Government have advertised the following projects for implementation by private sector companies. Response is awaited :—

1. Teesta St. V (660 MW).
2. Teesta-III (1200 MW).

Suspension of World Bank Loan to NTPC

3841. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has suspended disbursement of $ 2.5 billion worth of committed credit loans;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Cabinet Secretary had called an emergency meeting in the second week of March, 1994 with Power Ministry and NTPC officials alongwith the Chief Secretaries and Chairmen of State Electricity Boards to resolve the crisis ;

(c) if so, whether the country's capacity addition effort in the power sector is expected to suffer severe blow due to World Bank's money being stopped ;

(d) if so, what are the main points of difference between World Bank and the NTPC;

(e) what efforts have been made to meet their demands and restore the cut made by the World Bank ; and

(f) what is the present stage of progress on Farakka, Talcher, Anta and Dadri projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Though the World Bank has not formally suspended disbursements under the ongoing loans to the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for the National Capital Thermal Power Project (840 MW) (NCPT). Farakka Super Thermal Power Project Stage II (1000 MW) and the Talcher Super Thermal Power Project (1000 MW), disbursements have not been made after 28-2-94. The undisbursed amount is approximately US $ 331 million.